

Abstract of the Disclosure

A search service that takes security into consideration is provided efficiently. When a search center 1 receives a search request from an information browsing apparatus 4, then, the search center 1 searches for URLs that are associated with a search condition included in the above-mentioned search request, from a search database that registers URLs of Web pages, associating those URLs with respective search conditions. Then, the search center 1 presents the information browsing apparatus 4 with link information to the detected URLs. At that time, when the search request includes not only the search condition but also a condition that authorization by an authorization center (or centers) $2_1 - 2_3$ is given, then, URLs that are registered in the search database being associated with the above-mentioned search condition, and at the same time, registered in said authorization center (or centers) $2_1 - 2_3$ are searched for, and link information to the detected URLs is presented to the information browsing apparatus 4. Each authorization center $2_1 - 2_3$ registers URLs of Web pages opened to the public by information disclosing persons who have passed examination by the authorization center in question.